

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93001425

Date Listed: 12/23/93

Cornell Pulpwood Stacker  
Property Name

Chippewa  
County

WI  
State

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**Multiple Name**

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*Beth Boland*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

*1/31/94*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

The VBD says the boundary is approximately 100'x100', but does not tie the square to any fixed point. The correct boundary is a square with 100-foot sides, centered on the base of the structure (stacker). This information was provided by Jim Draeger of the WI SHPO.

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**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of Interior  
National Park Service

RECEIVED

NOV 12 1993

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Cornell Pulpwood Stacker

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number Cornell Mill Yard Park N/A not for publication

city or town Cornell N/A vicinity

state Wisconsin code WI county Chippewa code 017 zip code 54732

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination    request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets    does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant    nationally x statewide    locally. (   See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

11/5/93

State Historic Preservation Officer-WI  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria.  
(   See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

Cornell Pulpwood Stacker                      Chippewa / WI  
Name of Property                      County and State

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that the property is:  
 entered in the National Register.                      Signature of the Keeper      Date of Action  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register.                      Debl Poland                      12/23/93  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain:)

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include listed resources within the count)	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> public-state	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> public-federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
			<u>0</u>
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property Register listing.)		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National	
<u>N/A</u>		<u>0</u>	

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>Industry/Processing/Extraction</u>	<u>not in use</u>
<u>-manufacturing facility</u>	

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>No Style</u>	foundation: <u>Concrete</u>
	walls: <u>N/A</u>
	other: <u>Steel</u>

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Cornell Pulpwood Stacker  
Name of Property

Chippewa / WI  
County and State

### 8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria  
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the  
criteria qualifying the property for the  
National Register listing.)

A Property is associated with events  
that have made a significant  
contribution to the broad patterns of  
our history.

B Property is associated with the lives  
of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive  
characteristics of a type, period, or  
method of construction or represents  
the work of a master, or possesses  
high artistic values, or represents a  
significant and distinguishable entity  
whose components lack individual  
distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to  
yield, information important in  
prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations  
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or  
used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or  
structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age achieved  
significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

### 9. Major Bibliographic References

#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance  
(Enter categories from  
instructions)

Industry

Engineering

Period of Significance

1912 - 1943

Significant Dates

1912

Significant Person  
(Complete if Criterion B is  
marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Designer: Joor Engineering

Builder: Minneapolis Tool &  
Machinery Co.

Cornell Pulpwood Stacker  
Name of Property

Chippewa / WI  
County and State

Previous Documentation on File (NPS): Primary location of additional data:

- preliminary determination of Office individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- State Historic Preservation
- previously listed in the National Register
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- Local government
- University
- Other
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 <u>1/5</u> <u>6/4/5/0/0/0</u> <u>5/0/0/3/8/1/0</u>  | 3 <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> |
| Zone Easting Northing   | Zone Easting Northing   |
| 2 <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> | 4 <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> <u>/</u> |
| Zone Easting Northing   | Zone Easting Northing   |
- \_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Michael Matucheski, edited by Diane Burant  
organization SHSW/Div. of His. Pres. date 6/19/93  
street & number 816 State Street telephone (608)264-6500  
city or town Madison state WI zip code 53703

**Additional Documentation**

- Submit the following items with the completed form:
- Continuation Sheets
  - Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.
  - Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.
  - Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Cornell Pulpwood Stacker  
Name of Property

Chippewa / WI  
County and State

**Property Owner**

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number City of Cornell telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Cornell state WI zip code 54732

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

NPS Form 10-900-a  
(Rev. 8-86)  
Wisconsin Word Processing Format  
(Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section 7 Page 1

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Narrative Description:

The Cornell Pulpwood Stacker is located in Cornell Mill Yard Park, which is situated along the east bank of the Chippewa River in Cornell Wisconsin. The park site was once part of a larger pulpwood and paper mill industrial site (Cornell Wood Products Co.) that extended to the south of the present park and encompassed the current location of the Northern States Power Company. Highway 64 bisected the industrial site and currently acts as the southern border of Mill Yard Park. The park's eastern border is adjacent to the city's downtown commercial district. The pulpwood stacker is surrounded by a chain-link fence and is the backdrop for the park's ball diamond. Only the stacker is being nominated. The structural and building remnants which include remnants of the waterways and other mill buildings are not being nominated, although further examination of the park may disclose significant industrial archeological potential since portions of the sluice and other structural features of the site are extant but buried. The extent of such extant features is not fully known.

The pulpwood stacker and the mill buildings that supported the initial processing of the wood pulp were located in the northernmost portion of the mill site. (The present location of Mill Yard Park.) An office, a locker/tool building, the pump house, the slasher building, and the stacker pit building supported the sequenced process of preparing the wood logs for transportation to the pulpwood stacker. The woodyard office (currently being used as a park office), the compressor room, and the garage/storage shed are the only mill buildings that remain within the park's boundaries, but are not included in the parcel being nominated.

Due to neglect and destruction by fire only remnants of the other wood-frame buildings still exist. (The stacker pit building was destroyed by fire as recently as 1990.) Other structures that supported the initial processing of the wood logs included the log pond and the sluices. These waterways served as bins for wood storage and as channels for the transportation of the wood from the pulpwood stacker to the mill for further processing. Remnants of the waterways are visible within the park's boundaries.

NPS Form 10-900-a  
(Rev. 8-86)  
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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section 7 Page 2

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The pulpwood stacker is the prominent structure within the Mill Yard Park. The stacker functioned as an oblique mechanical conveyor of wood logs. It is a steel cantilever truss structure that stands 175 feet above the ground at an angle of approximately forty-five degrees. Designed by the Joor Engineering Company of England, the stacker was produced by the Minneapolis Tool and Machinery Company and assembled at the site in 1912. The front (east) lower section of the stacker rests on two concrete piers where it is held in place by steel pins. This served as a fulcrum which enabled the engineers to raise the stacker to its operating position by pouring concrete into the counterweight mold at the rear (west) section of the frame. When in place, more reinforced concrete was added to form a permanent base.

The pulpwood stacker is basically two parallel trusses connected by a series of struts and braces. The trusses are composed of a series of steel plates and webbed stringers riveted together to form the chords and struts. The stacker's truss is composed of a base created by the end chord fixed in a concrete base and cantilevered through the attachment of an inclined end post to another concrete base. The stacker has five panels of diminishing size in which the top and bottom chords eventually converge at the apex.

The stacker measures 36 feet wide at its base and narrows to 10 feet at the tip where a 35 bhp electric motor that powers the conveyor is located. The conveyor system is constructed of one inch wire cable to which iron discs (buttons) are attached at two foot intervals. Wood bolts--wood logs cut into two-foot long pieces--were carried by the conveyor over a v-shaped metal trough and were dumped by adjustable chutes located at various heights along the stacker. A catwalk, used by maintenance workers, is located on the upper side of the left truss frame.

The fire responsible for destroying the slasher building in 1990 did not significantly affect the structural integrity of the stacker.(1) Although the metal structure and the concrete foundation are currently secure, the pulpwood stacker will require constant upkeep to secure its future existence for the residents of Cornell.



NPS Form 10-900-a  
(Rev. 8-86)  
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section 8 Page 1

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Narrative Statement of Significance:

This large, stationary pulpwood stacker is possibly the only remaining structure of its kind. The Cornell Stacker was built in 1912. By the early 1920s the pulp industry switched to longer logs and began using movable equipment to stack and store pulpwood. Correspondence with the Forest History Association of Wisconsin, the American Pulpwood Association, the Wisconsin Pulpwood Association, the American Forest History Society at Duke University, and with people in the Wisconsin paper industry have failed to find another standing stationary stacker. (See attached contact list and letters.) The stacker was used from 1912 to 1971 by Cornell Wood Products. It is a significant and highly visible reminder of the contributions of Wisconsin's pulpwood and paper industry and an example of a rare and unusual engineered structure that was a part of this industry. The Cornell Pulpwood Stacker is of statewide significance under Criterion A for Industry and under Criterion C for Engineering.

Industry:

The pulpwood and paper industry was established in Wisconsin in the 1870s. Due to a shortage of suitable softwoods needed to sustain Wisconsin's lumber industry, the pulpwood and paper industry which could utilize the softwoods that remained began to flourish. In 1890, Wisconsin's pulpwood and paper production ranked 5th in the nation, and by the time the Cornell mill was established (1913) Wisconsin ranked 3rd in the nation.(1) Many towns and cities located on the shore of Wisconsin's Chippewa river were established for the sole purpose of serving the lumber, and later the pulpwood and paper making industry.(2) As one of the larger pulpwood mills along the Chippewa River the Cornell Wood Products Mill held its position as the principle employer in the city through World War II.(3)

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section 8 Page 2

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The pulpwood stacker played an important role in the initial processing of the wood logs after they arrived at the mill site. In order for the mill to run continuously--especially during the winter--wood had to be stock piled. The pulpwood stacker facilitated the switch from storing wood in log booms in water--a labor intensive task--to massive piles on land. This switch to land piling was due to labor shortage problems and was the result of a growing mechanization within the pulpwood and paper making industry. Large stationary stackers were built to stockpile large supplies of pulpwood on relatively less land area. The Cornell stacker was designed to handle a much larger operation providing the mill with one large stockpile of wood. The Cornell mill slashed pulpwood into bolts prior to stacking. The shorter logs could then be handled by a system of sluiceways that carried the bolts to the pulp mill's debarkers and on to further processing into wood pulp and paper.

The pulpwood stacker is significant to the history of the pulpwood industry because it represents an important component in the industrial process of papermaking in Wisconsin. Although numerous resources exist which represent the manufacturing portion of the process (i.e. paper mills, dams), the stacker illustrates the continuous pattern of technological invention and innovation that characterized the paper industry. The stacker represents an important attempt to mechanize the labor intensive task of stockpiling and moving enormous quantities of pulp logs from river to mill plant. Although the technological development of pulpwood stackers became a proven method of log handling, smaller mobile stackers became the industry standard.(4)

NPS Form 10-900-a  
(Rev. 8-86)  
Wisconsin Word Processing Format  
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section 8 Page 3

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**Engineering:**

The Cornell Stacker is a significant early twentieth century example of industrial engineering. The structure embodies the distinctive characteristics of steel truss construction and represents the application of the technology of truss design to the construction of large industrial contrivances. It illustrates how advances in material technology and the science of engineering were adopted by industry to solve complex problems of the mechanization of labor-intensive processes.

The Cornell Pulpwood Stacker ceased operations in 1971, a victim of obsolescence brought on by modern hydraulics and hastened by an economic slump in the wood pulp and paper making industry that prompted the streamlining of many operations.(5) The stacker remains, however, serving as a visual reminder of the City's link to its past. Currently, efforts are underway to preserve and stabilize the stacker to ensure that this vital aspect of Cornell's heritage is never lost.

**Archeological potential**

Due to the unusual nature of the Pulpwood Stacker and its complex, the site may have potential industrial archeological value. The complex contains foundations and remnants of the railroad grade, sluiceway and log ponds, but much of these features are covered with earth and are not currently visible. Future investigations may have potential to yield important information on industrial processing.

NPS Form 10-900-a  
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section 8 Page 4

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Endnotes:

1 Wyatt, Barbara, Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin: A Manual For Historic Properties, Vol. 2, The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Historic Preservation Division, 1986, p. 6-1.

2 Wyatt, p. 6-1.

3 Chippewa County Offers Golden Opportunity to All Its Citizens, Chippewa, WI: The Chippewa Printery, January 10, 1945.

4 "Preparation of Wood for Pulping," Lecture by F.C. Simmons, USDA Forest Service, at Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, October 10, 1945, p. 17.

5 Eau Claire Leader Tribune, May 13, 1971, p. 1.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section 9 Page 1

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Chippewa County Offers Golden Opportunity to All Its Citizens. Chippewa, WI: The  
Chippewa Printery, January 10, 1945.

Chippewa County, Wisconsin, Past and Present: A Record of Settlement, Organization,  
Progress and Achievement, Vol. 1, Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1913.

Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. The Fourteenth Census of the U.S.:  
Population, Vol. 1. Washington: GPO, 1920.

Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. The Sixteenth Census of the U.S.:  
Population, Vol. 1. Washington: GPO, 1940.

Eau Claire Leader Tribune. May 13, 1971.

Hurlburt, Bud. former stacker operator. telephone interview. April 12, 1993.

"The New Town." Chippewa Falls Times. August 6, 1912.

Mrs. Edward Porter. The March of Civilization: A Story of the Development of the  
Cornell Country. Cornell, WI: Cornell Wood Board Printery, 1916.

"Preparation of Wood for Pulping." Lecture by F.C. Simmons, USDA Forest Service, at  
Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. October 10, 1945.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section 9 Page 2

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Prospectus of the New York Lumber, Manufacturing and Improvement Co. Albany, NY:  
Van Benthuysen and Sons Printing House, 1867.

Wyatt, Barbara. Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin: A Manual For Historic Properties, Vol. 2. The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Historic Preservation Division, 1986.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section 10 Page 1

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Verbal Boundary Description

Located in Mill Yard Park in the city of Cornell, the boundary is delineated by a chain link fence currently surrounding the stacker. The fence is approximately 100 feet by 100 feet.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Cornell Pulpwood Stacker encompass the immediate surroundings of the Stacker in Cornell Mill Yard Park in the city of Cornell.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Name of Property Cornell Pulpwood Stacker County and State  
Chippewa / WI

Section Photos Page 1

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Cornell Pulpwood Stacker  
Cornell, Chippewa County, Wisconsin  
Photos by Joseph DeRose Taken 8/1992  
Negatives at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Photo 1 of 4

Stacker, looking Northwest

Photo 2 of 4

Stacker, looking East

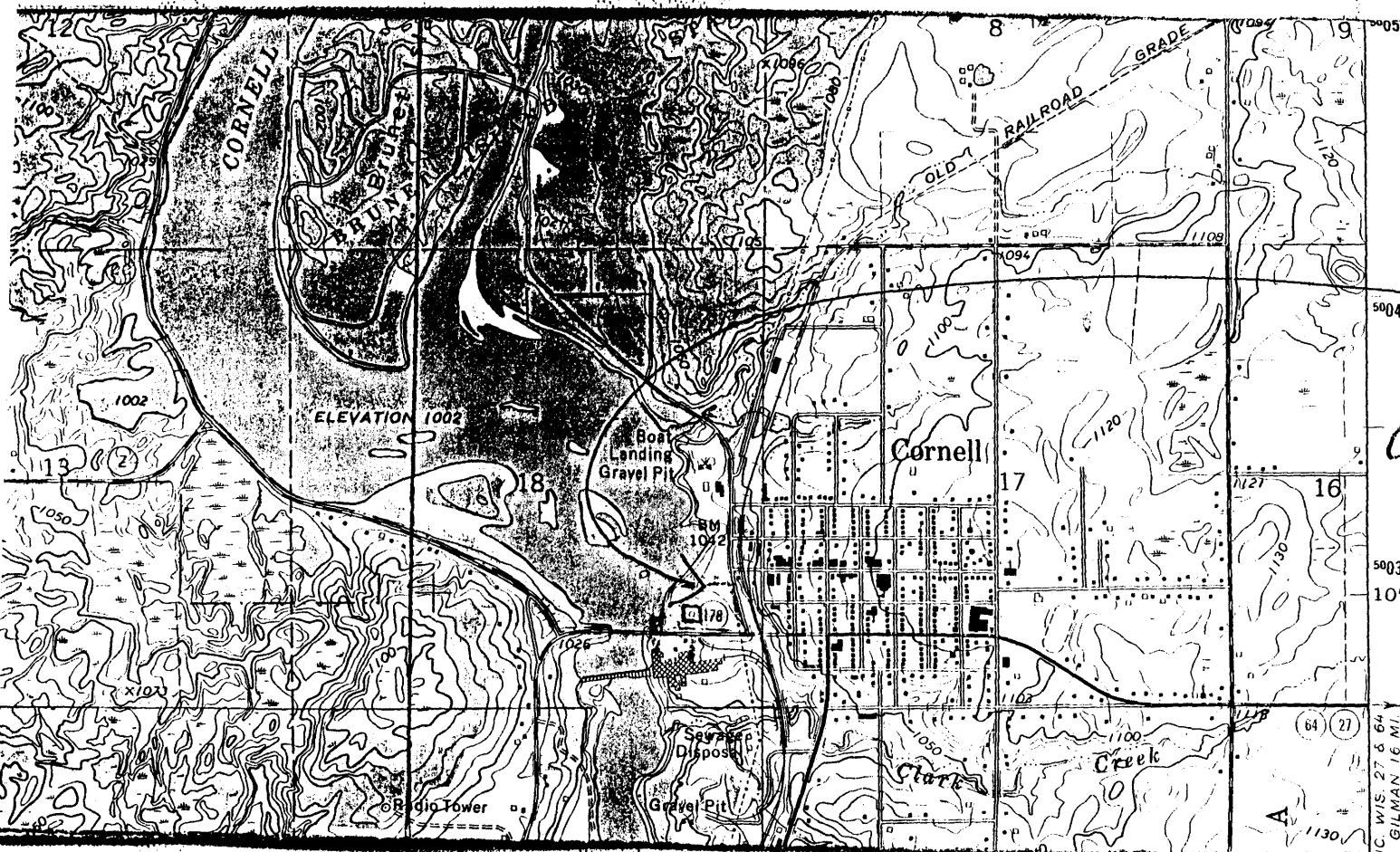
Photo 3 of 4

Stacker, looking Southeast

Photo 4 of 4

Stacker, looking South





SITE  
Cornell Pulpwood Stacker  
Cornell, Chippewa County,  
WI  
15/645000 /5003810

5004  
5003  
10'  
64 27  
C. WIS. 27 & 64  
GILMAN 16 MI.